

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Agriculture and Forestry Office of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences Horticulture and Quarantine Programs

Xyloporosis (LAC 7:XV.127)

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B), and the authority of the state entomologist pursuant to R.S. 3:1652, and in order to avoid a lapse in coverage until a permanent rule is in effect, notice is hereby given that Department of Agriculture and Forestry is adopting this emergency regulation differentiating between two strains of xyloporosis for citrus nursery stock.

The reason for the Emergency Rule is that new information has been found about the disease Xyloporosis. Xyloporosis is synonymous with the names cachexia and Hop Stunt Viroid. These three names were all named for the same disease but, at different times in the last 80 years. As technology became more advanced, PCR testing showed that all three diseases were actually the same disease. The name cachexia is the name that is most commonly used today. In addition, there are two strains of cachexia. One strain infects citrus but is symptomless and it is called non-cachexia variant. The other strain also infects citrus which causes the disease cachexia (or xyloporosis). That strain is called cachexia virulent. Our regulations restrict movement of citrus nursery stock unless it is found free of Xyloporosis (along with CTV, psorosis, and exocortis) but, it does not specify between non-cachexia and cachexia. The new regulation differentiates between the two strains of xyloporosis.

Citrus ships into Louisiana beginning in January. If the emergency rule differentiating between the two strains of cachexia is not in place, citrus which is free from the strain which causes xyloporosis will be prohibited from being shipping into Louisiana, resulting in a loss of business for citrus nursery growers.

This Rule shall have the force and effect of law effective December 31, 2015 and will remain in effect 120 days, unless renewed by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry or until permanent rules are promulgated in accordance with law.

Title 7

AGRICULTURE AND ANIMALS

Part XV. Plant Protection and Quarantine

Chapter 1. Crop Pests and Diseases

Subchapter B. Nursery Stock Quarantines

§127. Citrus Nursery Stock, Scions and Budwood

A. - B. ...

C. Citrus nursery stock, scions and/or budwood may move into Louisiana from areas in which tristeza is known to occur, provided it has been grown under a citrus budwood registration program against tristeza, xyloporosis, psorosis and exocortis, and provided that under this registration program the following are required.

1 - 2. ...

3. The nursery stock, scions and/or budwood is from parent stock that has been indexed and found free of psorosis and the cachexia virulent strain of xyloporosis.

4 - 6 ...

D. - F.i.iv. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 3:1652.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Agriculture, Office of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, LR 11:319 (April 1985), amended by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Office of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, LR 40:1308 (July 2014), LR 42:

Mike Strain DVM
Commissioner

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